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# A new subspecies of *Ambulyx placida* Moore from Nepal (Sphingidae)

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**Abstract** A new subspecies, *Ambulyx placida nepalplacida*, is described from Nepal.

**Key words** Sphingidae, *Ambulyx*, *Ambulyx*, nominotypical, Nepal, taxonomy.

Through a cautious investigation by Cadiou & Kitching, 1990, *Lambillionea* **90**: 3-34, it became clear that *Ambulyx placida semiplacida* Inoue, 1990, *Tinea* **12**: 248, from Taiwan was an independent species distributed in Darjeeling, Nepal, Myanmar and South China in addition to the original locality and that a male specimen of "*placida*" figured by Rothschild & Jordan, 1903, and that of D'Abrera, [1987], belongs to *semiplacida*.

Recently Haruta, 1992, Moths of Nepal, 1 (*Tinea* **13**, Suppl. 2): 84, pl. 21: 11, recorded many specimens of *placida* from East Nepal for the first time, with illustration of a male. Through his courtesy I could obtain 19 specimens of that species from his rich collection and dissected four males and one female. Since there are constant differences in the male genitalia of the Nepalese population from Northwest Indian nominotypical *placida*, I will describe here a new subspecies.

## *Ambulyx placida nepalplacida* subsp. nov. (Figs. 1-5)

Shape of gnathos as in *placida placida*, but the ventral process of harpe more slender, but not so long as in *A. montana* Cadiou & Kitching from North Thailand, apex of the process directing downward, dorsal margin of the process irregularly undulated or dentate. Lobes of 8th abdominal sternite stronger as in *semiplacida*.

Type-series. Holotype, ♂: Godavari, 1,600 m, near Kathmandu, 16. v. 1991 (ex T. Haruta), in coll. H. Inoue. Paratypes: type locality, v-vi. 1990 & 1991, 13 ♂ 2 ♀; Mt. Phulchouki, 2,275 m, near Kathmandu, v-vi. 1990 & 1991, 2 ♂ 1 ♀; in coll. H. Inoue.

The female of *placida* and its close relatives has not been studied exclusive of a short description by Rothschild & Jordan, 1903, nor genitalia have been illustrated. Excepting a little larger size and lack of dorsal mark on 8th abdominal tergite, the female of *placida* is almost identical in colour and maculation with the male.

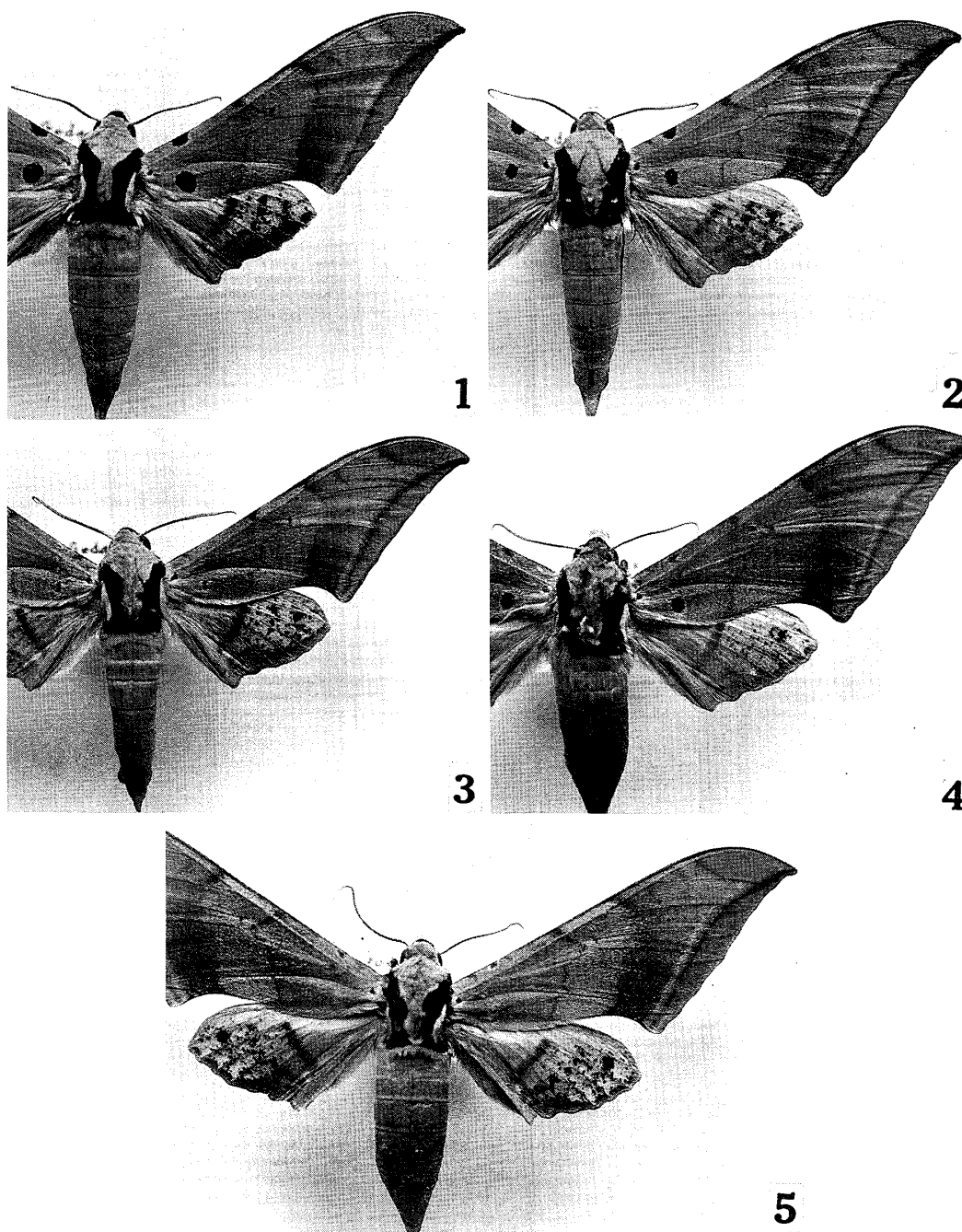
♀ genitalia: strongly sclerotized colliculum shorter than in the well-known *A. sericeipennis* Butler, the opening deeply hollowed cephalad, ductus bursae very short, signum a longitudinal sclerite, tapering cephalad.

The subbasal spot of forewing is much smaller than in *semiplacida*, very rarely it is represented by a minute dot and in one female this spot is absent and the costal mark is vestigial. In one male there are small lateral marks on 6th abdominal tergite.

## 摘 要

*Ambulyx placida* Moore のネパールからの新亜種 (井上寛)

Cadiou & Kitching, 1990 の研究で *A. placida semiplacida* Inoue, 1990 マルモンホソバスズメ という台



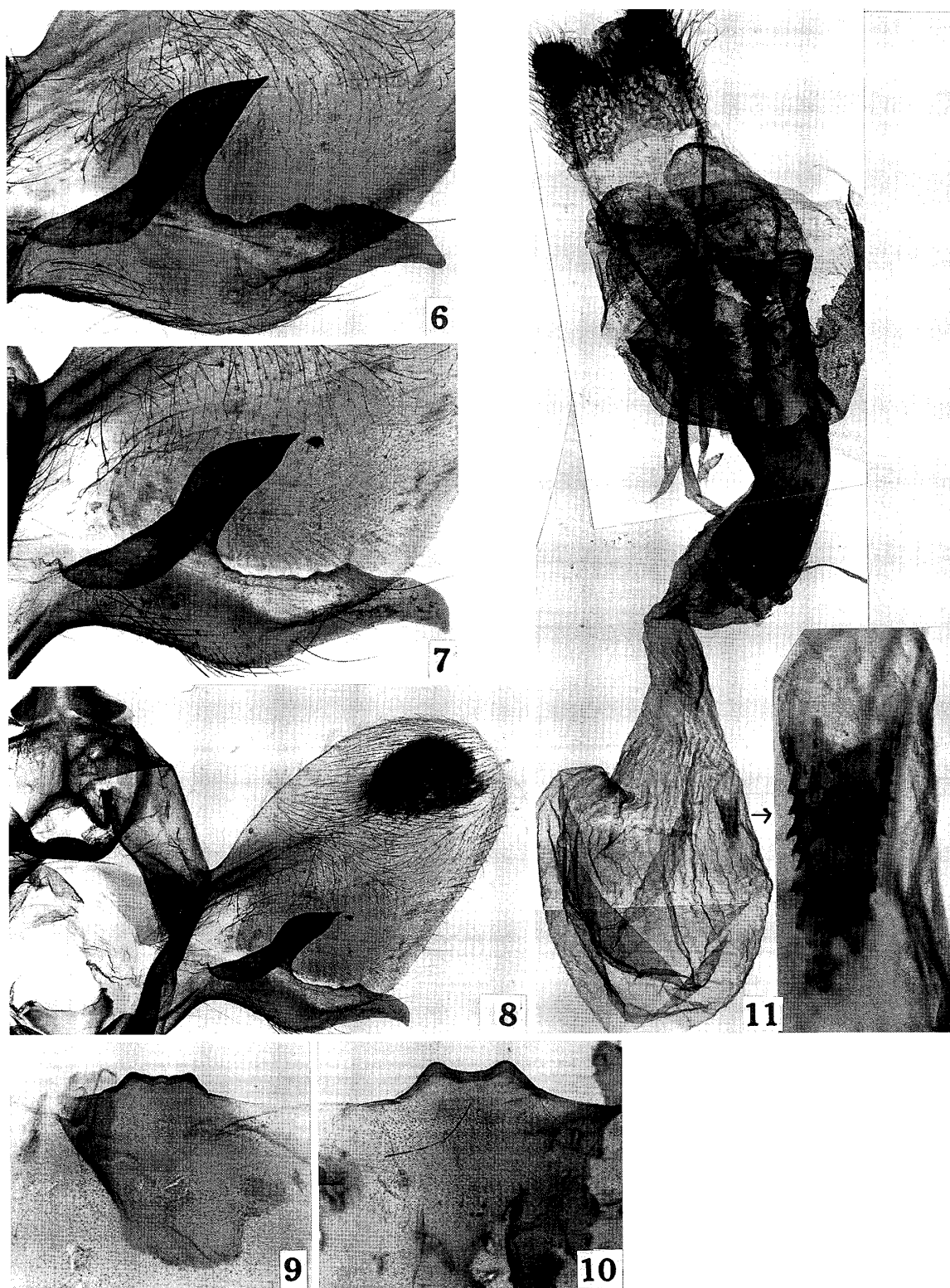
Figs. 1-5. *Ambulyx placida nepalpacida* subsp. nov. 1. Holotype, ♂. 2. Paratype, ♂. 3. Paratype, ♂. 4. Paratype, ♀. 5. Paratype, ♀.

湾亜種は種に昇格され、インド北東部、ネパール、ミャンマー、中国南部に分布していること、タイ国北部に別の1新種 *A. montana* が分布していることが明らかとなった。

ネパールの *placida* は、インド北西部の原名亜種とくらべ、雄交尾器の *harpe* と第8腹板の突起に安定した差があるので、本文で *nepalpacida* という新亜種として記載した。

なお、D'Abrera, [1987], *Sphingidae Mundi*: 55, fig. の *Oxyambulyx placida* は *semiplacida* である。

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Figs. 6-11. Male and female genitalia of *Ambulyx placida nepalplacida* subsp. nov.  
 6-8: male genitalia, 9-10: male 8th abdominal sternite, 11: female genitalia (6,  
 9: H. Inoue Slide 15038. 7, 8, 10: H. Inoue Slide 15041. 11: H. Inoue Slide  
 15088).

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